

**COMMISSION FOR ACCESS, DIVERSITY,
EQUITY & INCLUSION (CADEI)
MINUTES**



MEDFORD
OREGON

cityofmedford.org

February 15, 2022

5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

Virtual

Due to an extreme number of COVID-19 cases in Jackson County, this meeting will be held virtually. To attend virtually, click [HERE](#).

Commission Chair Tarantsey called the meeting to order at 5:09 pm.

10. Roll Call

Present: Marta Tarantsey, Commission Chair, and Commissioners Richard Beall, Rosemary Jernigan, Hima Patel and Vance Beach (5:30p.m.).

Also present: Bonnie Barasch, HR Director, Tricia Hahn, Senior Assistant City Attorney, and Valerie Goodwin, Human Resources Specialist.

Absent: Vice Chair, Rose Velasquez and Commissioner Debra Lee.

Introduction of newly appointed Commissioner Hima Patel. Patel has resided in Medford for four and a half (4 1/2) years and looks forward to helping educate the community about inclusivity and the different cultures present in Medford.

20. Approval of Minutes from December 21, 2021 and January 18, 2022

Commission Chari Tarantsey presented the December 21st and January 18th minutes, and hearing no corrections or opposing comments; adopted the minutes as submitted. 5:10p.m.

30. Public Comments

The CADEI Commission is only accepting written comments and not verbal comments, with the exception of land use applicants, who will be given the opportunity to attend the meeting electronically. Public comments will be accepted via first class mail or email until 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday November 16, 2021. Please email comments or public hearing testimony pertaining to the agenda items to valerie.goodwin@cityofmedford.org and include your name, address and phone number. All comments pertaining to the CADEI Commission agenda, received by noon, will be provided to the CADEI Commission at the meeting.

40. Continued Commission Business

40.1 Alba Room Public Art Project Exploration Follow-up

Chair Tarantsey briefed Commission about history and relationship between Medford and Medford's sister city, Alba in Italy, and the possibility of teaming up with them in providing public art to brighten up the space in the Alba room in which the public will have access. Tarantsey discussed email thread former Commissioner Pam Lucas has established with Robin who is with the sister city to begin discussion and steps moving forward.

40.2 Medford 20/40 Update

Chair Tarantsey informed Committee of her nomination to the Vision Implementation Committee. This role involves following up with leads with supporting partners and shaping of the team. Tarantsey asked Commissioners to let networks know of opportunity to serve on the Medford 20/40 Committee and if interested to let her know.

40.3 Multi-Cultural Fair Update

No immediate update to report.

40.4 City Liaising / Outreach Updates

No immediate update to report.

40.5 Local Tribal Relationships Update

Chair Tarantsey scheduled to meet with Jill Tomey soon. Once contact is obtained Tarantsey will report back to Councilor Spansail on tribal relationship with CADEI.

40.6 City of Ashland Meeting Update

Chair Tarantsey thanked Commissioners for attending the study session meeting held February 3rd with the City of Ashland Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission. Committee consensus that the meet and greet was beneficial for both groups, the rapport is meaningful, and expressed hope of continued partnership with Ashland group. Committee discussed future liaising efforts.

50. Agenda Items

50.1 ADEI Consultant Update

Bonnie Barasch briefed Commission on City's consultant selection, Kaleidoscope. Barasch met with four consultants in kick-off meeting, and Kaleidoscope realized that based on the Councils timeline they have a short window and therefore are placing additional resources to address areas of concern. Bonnie attended follow-up meeting with Consultant so they can

understand all policies and hiring practices that affect employees. Consultant plans to process information given to then determine the map to drive process. Chair Tarantsey requested to have Kaleidoscope attend March CADEI meeting. Barasch to communicate request with Kaleidoscope and update Commission.

60. Commissioner Reports/Round Table

Chair Tarantsey and Commissioners Beall, Patel and Jernigan to attend March 17th City Council meeting to provide CADEI update to Council. Bonnie Barasch to add CADEI to Council calendar; a four (4) minute time slot has been allotted to the Commission.

Commissioner Beach briefed Commission on 'Say their Names' memorial project that BASE (Black Alliance & Social Empowerment) group is working on. An art installation representing black lives that were lost and encompasses the Black Lives Matter philosophy. The City of Ashland is behind project which has much community support including several local artists. Project includes a selection panel of community members which have narrowed the selection down to final process.

Beach noted that BASE has a meeting at the end of month to prepare for the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration event. BASE consists of nine (9) members who are a community organization working to build an inclusive community in Medford. The group focuses on helping black residents in the community feel supported and represented. Group is involved with a lot of collaboration with organizations to foster a more inclusive community. Beach expressed desire to have the Mayor involved with this year's event; perhaps reading of the proclamation.

Beach updated Commission on projects for Black History Month. BASE has represented a lot of different local businesses via social media and through interviews to inform the community about the many different industries in Medford in an effort to bring awareness. Less than 1% of black business owners in state of Oregon.

Commissioner Beach suggested liaising contact, Marissa Pooling with the Medford School District who is their Family Outreach & Equity Coordinator. She is involved with equity efforts in the school district and a connection with BASE that stems out through the community.

Commissioner Jernigan asked to have Charlie Bower added to liaising contact list. He is part of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion group. Jernigan also suggested Dee Anne Everson, Executive Director of United Way of Jackson County.

Jernigan informed Commission about SOU educational opportunity; Watch the film [John Lewis: Good Trouble](#), then join a discussion facilitated by SOU's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Leadership Team on February 23 at 12:30 p.m. Also available on Amazon Prime.

Jernigan shared [Black History Month programming for children and adults](#).

Jernigan noted that SOU received a \$30,000 grant for their indigenous garden.

Chair Update

Chair Tarantsey to consult with Vice Chair Velasquez on update with Wayfinding Consultant.

City Update

Bonnie Barasch updated Commission on Diversity 101 training purchased from Sollah. Department Directors are in process of showing the educational training to staff and the response has been well received and positive. Training teaches respect and touches on multiple types of discussions that exist in the workplace. Training is expected to be completed by the end of April.

Barasch noted the many upcoming job opportunities available with the City and asked Commissioners to pass information on to personal networks.

Barasch asked Chair Tarantsey about the State of Oregon Diversity Conference event for 2022. Tarantsey to follow up on conference and specific topics/keynotes.

Tricia Hahn, Senior Assistant City Attorney informed group of newly hired Senior City Attorney, Alicia Wilson.

70. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm

Next scheduled meeting: March 15, 2022.

[Black History Month programming for children and adults](#)

Medford 2040 Community Vision Draft Action Plan

[Medford2040 DraftActionPlan.pdf \(cdn-website.com\)](#)

City Proclamations

<https://www.medfordoregon.gov/Government/Proclamations-2021>